

### ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A method for manufacturing a security element for documents, forgery-proof labels, checks, seals and the like, comprising the steps of providing a  
5 backing layer and applying a covering layer to at least one face of the backing layer. The method also comprises a step of removing preset regions of the covering layer with a laser beam having a wavelength between 900 and 1200 nm. The preset regions define a code which can be customized in any manner and detected in any manner.